

FINISH FIGHT FOR EIGHT CENT FARE WILL BREAK EARLY

Jenks Has Recast His Bills for Presentation in the Assembly.

OUTLOOK IS BRIGHTER

Senate P. S. Committee Is More Favorable to Some Increase.

MILLER MESSAGE WAITED

Governor Expected to Deal in Broad Way With Trouble-some Problem.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD, Albany, Jan. 16.

The eight cent fare controversy will be one of the big issues before the Legislature again this session and the storm will break at the very outset—much earlier than last year. That became evident to-day when Assemblyman Jenks, author of the bills which last session, announced he was redrafting the measure and would have them ready for presentation at an early date.

Whether these are to be the administration bills covering the whole subject of increase in street car fare is not explained. Gov. Miller is expected to send a special message to the Legislature at an early date dealing in a broad way with this troublesome problem and presumably the bills will not be offered until the Executive's recommendations are before the house. Mr. Jenks represents the Governor's district.

The prevailing opinion here is that this Legislature is going to grapple in a fearless way with the fare increase problem. It has been one of the most important issues before the lawmakers for the last three years. At the first mention of tinkering with street car fares there rises a great protest, especially in New York, which frightens Senators and Assemblymen out of all hope of giving the question fair minded consideration.

The Senate's Public Service Committee is regarded as much more favorably disposed toward fare increase this year than was the committee for the last three years when George P. Thompson was its chairman. Thompson was the bitter opponent of higher fares.

New Committee Picked.

In the organization of the new committee, it is charged that great care was taken to select Senators who were not hostile to the general proposition of advancing fares. It is even charged by the public spirited citizens who are ready to fight all fare advances that the committee was picked to give Senators a chance to show whether they would stand for a fare increase and if they answered in the negative were refused membership on the committee.

Senator Knight heads the new committee. He has a record for conservatism. Other members are Senators Ferris, Baumes, Whitley, Carson, Robinson, Thayer, Wiswall, Kavanaugh, Dugan and Leuk, Republicans and Downing, McChes and Walker, Democrats. The minority members, who are opposed to all fare increases, are so outnumbered that they are silent.

Representatives of the street car system, including the Interborough and others in New York, are on the ground insisting the Legislature must give relief or the lines will go to pieces entirely and the public suffer greater hardships than ever experienced. The self-appointed spokesmen for the public are also here to fight the battle for the people. The latter are bringing out all the old, familiar arguments and are setting up the customary "straining horses to fight the wind" which are inclined to believe there may be basis for the appeal of the railroad men.

Jenks Bills Revamped.

The Jenks bills, around which the contest was waged last year, were the subject of much discussion. One would compel railroad companies and municipalities to enter agreements on rates on a cost plus basis which would give the corporation fair return.

Another bill provided that if agreement could not be reached by the two parties that a board of arbitration be named consisting of a representative of the railroad and municipality and a Judge from the Appellate Division. If there still was disagreement, a third bill proposed that the Public Service Commission could step in and take control. The main features of his bills will be retained in the new measures, Mr. Jenks said.

The transit situation in New York is so serious that something will have to be done, Mr. Jenks stated to those with whom he discussed the situation. The belief of many of the leaders is that sentiment on a fare increase has changed in the last year or two, and the public is ready to accept a higher fare if convinced it is necessary. The bill is denied with vehemence by the spokesmen of the people, who say that a fare increase in New York would lead to riots.

Another measure being drawn under Mr. Jenks's direction prescribes that when the rates of gas and lighting companies are increased the new schedules must be suspended pending investigation by the Public Service Commission.

WOMEN MAP ALBANY LAWS TO BENEFIT SEX

Mrs. Vanderlip Calls Meeting for January 27.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD, New York Herald Bureau, Albany, Jan. 16.

A comprehensive legislative program in the interest of women will be mapped out by the League of Women Voters, of which Mrs. Frank A. Vanderlip is chairman, at its meeting here on January 27. Mrs. Vanderlip said that the league was interested particularly in health and welfare measures for children. Dr. S. Josephine Baker is chairman of the legislative committee.

Several women's and children's bills already have been introduced and may be backed by the league. The minimum wage and eight hour day bills for the protection of women and children in industries again have been put in by Assemblymen Maurice Bloch and William Lyman, of New York city. Another bill by Mr. Lyman provides for a State board of mothers' welfare. It would appropriate \$1,000,000 to be distributed among mothers whose husbands are dead, insane, in jail or who have deserted them. Extension of mothers' pensions is provided for in a bill by Assemblyman Thomas Burchell of New York.

The heads of large families will be interested in several bills to increase the exemptions from the income tax law. They make the exemption for a single man \$2,000 and for a married man \$4,000, with \$600 additional for each dependent. The present exemption is \$1,000 and \$2,000, with \$200 for each dependent. One measure is fathered by Assemblyman Theodore Roosevelt, who is following in the footsteps of his father in his interest in large families.

BUILDING GOUGING CASES IN 2 COURTS

Brindell's Trial Goes On To-day and Federal Grand Jury Convenes.

Despite the tump of the Lockwood resolution in the Legislature through the determination of certain members to draw its teeth, the sweeping investigation which the Lockwood committee began into the building trades situation promises to move forward to-day along two separate lines.

The trial of Robert P. Brindell, styled the "case" of the building trades unions, will be resumed before Supreme Court Justice John V. McAvoy after an adjournment of three days, and Samuel Untermyer, volunteer chief prosecutor, will have a host of witnesses on hand to tell of the labor chief's operations which terrorized the building industry of this city.

Simultaneously the special Federal Grand Jury, which has been summoned to appear in Judge Learned Hand's part of the United States District Court, will be impaneled, and Ildore J. Krasel, one of the two newly appointed United States Deputy Attorney-Generals, will begin the Federal Government's drive against building trades combines by presentation of evidence to it. His associate, William Rand, will be occupied in the preparation for the appearance in court to-morrow of the indicted sand and gravel dealers whose case has been set for trial.

It was learned yesterday that with several of its members under fire from the Lockwood committee a note has been sent out by the Building Trades Employers' Association, through the executive committee of its board of governors, requesting all of its members to examine the constitution and bylaws of their associations and eliminate therefrom any provision "that in the light of the investigation" might render them "subject to criticism."

The notice says in part: "If you have adopted a 'code of ethics' or 'code of practice,' you are requested to discontinue the same unless you feel that you are acting absolutely within your legal rights, and, if so, please submit such 'code of ethics' or 'code of practice' through your representatives on the board of governors to the board at its next regular meeting."

Samuel B. Donnelly, secretary of the association, explains the sending of this notice in the current issue of the *Record and Guide*, stating that the association feels a certain amount of responsibility for its members, although the association itself has nothing to do with agreements of the type complained of by the Lockwood investigators.

\$500,000 IN RENT CASES TIED UP IN BRONX COURT

350 Landlord Suits on Second District's Calendar.

Upward of 350 landlord and tenant cases are on the calendar of the Second District Municipal Court, 1624 street and Brook avenue, The Bronx, set down for trial to-day, clerks reported last night. More than \$500,000 is on deposit with the court, awaiting proper disposition by the justices. In addition to other suits deposited before the last tenant relief measures were passed and still awaiting disposition.

Although several months have passed since the Legislature enacted new rent laws, some of the municipal court justices have been working overtime trying to straighten out disputes taken to court under the old law. The new statutes, they find, have diverted litigation from hold over proceedings to dispossession tenants, to actions for rent based on the reasonable value of the premises, but they have by no means decreased the amount of litigation. The calendar of ordinary civil cases in consequence has been badly disarranged.

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NINE ALBANY BILLS ASK FOR \$8,388,000

Despite Miller's Plea for Economy Requests for Money Pile In.

HEAVY SLASHES CERTAIN

Big Battle This Week Over Enlarging Lockwood Committee's Power.

ALBANY, Jan. 16.—The 1921 Legislature has held only two sessions, and in that time nine special appropriations bills carrying a total of \$8,388,000 have been introduced, despite Gov. Miller's ultimatum that economy of the most emphatic kind will characterize his administration. Many additional millions will be requested in measures to be introduced within the next two months.

Of the special appropriation bills already introduced, the largest single item is \$4,000,000 for construction of a hospital for soldiers, sailors and marines. There are also requests of \$2,000,000 for old age pensions and \$1,000,000 for mothers' welfare.

The men who have the most prominent part in determining the State's financial policy apparently are not disturbed by these bills. All appropriation measures are referred to the Finance Committee of the Senate and the Ways and Means Committee of the Assembly, and without the approval of these committees the bills can make no headway. At present the chairman of the finance committee is confronted with the task of pruning approximately \$50,000,000 from the requests of department heads for the appropriations for the next fiscal year.

While no official or formal notice of reduction in the way of departmental appropriations has been received by the finance committee, it is understood that all department heads are cutting to the bone, and it is hoped by the financial leaders of the Legislature that the 1921 appropriations will not exceed the 1920 total of \$141,855,000 allowed at the regular session. The extra session to consider the housing situation added \$23,234,000 to this total. They say the ordinary running expenses can be kept within this amount, but unforeseen contingencies may arise that will increase the total.

Financing Soldiers' Bonuses.

For example, the voters in November sanctioned a bond issue of \$45,000,000 for soldiers' bonuses. If it should be decided to raise the entire sum in one issue, an appropriation of approximately \$4,000,000 would be necessary this year for amortization and sinking fund purposes. If, however, only half the bonds are floated this year an appropriation of \$2,000,000 would be sufficient for sinking fund and amortization.

Decision regarding the policy to be followed with respect to the construction of the New York-New Jersey vehicular tunnel also will have some effect. An appropriation of \$5,500,000 has been set aside for this project, which, if allowed, will increase the total of expenditures by that amount.

On the other hand, if Gov. Miller's recommendations for the abolition of some State departments and the consolidation of some others are followed by the Legislature it is expected that there will be a substantial saving. The Governor urged the abolition of the Military Training Commission, which last year cost \$223,000, and this year is requesting the \$200,000; the Department of Narcotic Drug Control, which asks an appropriation of \$217,000, and the office of the State Superintendent of Elections, which asks for \$319,000. He declared that reorganization of the Industrial Commission would result in an annual saving of \$1,000,000, and he urged the consolidation of all taxation bureaus under one head, in the interest of economy as well as of efficiency.

Uncertainty Adds to Problem.

Uncertainty regarding the disposition of the Governor's recommendations of the Legislature is adding to the difficulties of the financial committees. The lawmakers are not prepared to approve appropriations for the Military Training Commission, the Narcotic Drug Control Department or the State Superintendent of Elections if those offices are to be legislated out of existence; nor do they wish to withhold the appropriations if the departments, or any of them, are to be continued.

The question of reorganization and consolidation of other departments also must be settled, either by legislative action or by agreement of the leaders, before the financial committees can be in a position to submit the annual budget bill to the Legislature. Under the law the budget bill must be introduced by March 15.

The revenues of the State for the current year are estimated at \$142,000,000. If appropriations of the 1921 Legislature exceed that sum new sources of taxation must be developed, it is declared.

The Lockwood committee investigating the housing and building situations will be the centre of controversy at the Capitol this week when the financial committees consider its request for extension of life, broadened powers to investigate banks and insurance companies and an appropriation of \$50,000 with which to continue activities. The

controversy will be over the broadening of the committee's powers. The committee wants to inquire into the affairs of banks and insurance companies in order to learn what proportion of their funds are being lent in the furtherance of building operations.

Opponents of this proposal argue that the committee should not be empowered to conduct what Senator Lusk termed collateral investigations, and others declare that even if the committee should discover that financial institutions and insurance corporations were not lending much money toward building there is no way in which they could be forced to advance funds for construction at a lower rate of interest than they might derive from other forms of investment.

Proposals for a legislative investigation of the city of New York, with particular reference to finance and the conduct of the Police Department and the office of the District Attorney of New York county, will furnish some debate during the week. Senators Schuyler Meyer of New York and Theodore Boulogne Robinson of Herkimer have introduced resolutions in the Senate calling for an investigation and Assemblyman Joseph Steinberg of New York will present one in the Assembly to-morrow night.

JERSEY TO REORGANIZE ITS HIGHWAY BOARD

Three Men to Serve With Powers of Cautailment.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Jan. 16.—The joint programme committee of the State Legislature to-day decided on a complete reorganization of the Highway Commission. Senator White was instructed to prepare a bill to go before the forthcoming session calling for a three man board, with the chief executive officer of the State as one of the members, and the other two to be appointed by the Governor. The committee which met in the Marlborough-Blenheim as the guests of State Senator Charles D. White of Atlantic county, expressed opposition to Gov. Edwards's appointments to the State Highway and Public Utility commissions.

Senator White's proposed bill will make it mandatory upon the municipalities and the Highway Commission to use "open specifications" in calling for bids. The provision is aimed at the alleged patent paving monopoly. The committee also proposed prohibition enforcement measures which would bring violations of the excise laws under the disorderly act and empower a magistrate to issue a complaint for illegal liquor sales without the formality of a Grand Jury indictment.

SCANDINAVIAN BANK OF TACOMA CLOSED

Gross Mismanagement of Affairs Is Charged.

TACOMA, Wash., Jan. 16.—The doors of the Scandinavian-American Bank of Tacoma were officially closed last night by Bank Commissioner Claude P. Hay. "Gross mismanagement, building operation and accumulation of non-liquidated assets" was charged by Mr. Hay, who emphasized that the situation was caused by the internal affairs of the bank and not through financial conditions in Tacoma. Deposits of the bank are approximately \$1,000,000, representing about 12,000 stockholders.

PREPARING TO ELECT MAYOR.

Republicans to Begin Coaching Speakers at Once.

Samuel S. Koenig, chairman of the New York County Republican Committee, announced yesterday the appointment of a speakers' bureau committee for the purpose of organizing and preparing speakers for the next Mayoralty campaign.

The committee will hold its first meeting next Wednesday evening at the National Republican Club, 54 West Fortieth street. The meeting will be preceded by a dinner at which a number of prominent Republicans will speak on municipal problems.

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NEW POLICE CHIEF RUMOR IS INSISTENT

Latest One Discards Kenyon and Puts Another in Enright's Office.

WHITMAN SCARES TIGER

Police Graft in Massage Parlors Is One of New Charges Affecting Cops.

Indications last night were that the additional Grand Jury to which Charles S. Whitman is presenting evidence relating to official corruption would be asked this week to look into reports of police graft in connection with various massage parlors of this city, as well as into the activity of a certain private detective agency that has been reaping a harvest of rewards by finding stolen automobiles.

The stories involving the massage parlors have reached the Criminal Courts Building through various sources, and they are to the effect that certain establishments are permitted by police officers to conduct their business along illegal lines.

In the meantime, with the Mayor and the Police Commissioner subpoenaed to appear as Grand Jury witnesses this morning in connection with the crime investigation, the former Republican Governor has Tammany greatly worried. In various broad administration circles yesterday the question anxiously asked was "What is it all about and where it is going to end?"

In Tammany ranks, where the investigation was regarded as a thing of little or no consequence when it began a week ago, it has assumed an alarming aspect, and grave fears were entertained yesterday regarding the possible effect upon the political situation. The fear was expressed that as each day finds District Attorney Swann and the Hyman forces

further apart, there is a good chance of Tammany's hopes being wrecked in the widening breach.

As the investigation conducted by Mr. Whitman as special counsel to Mr. Swann enters upon its second week, the evidences of panic in the Tammany-Hyman ranks are becoming plainly evident.

A report to the effect that New York would have a new Police Commissioner within twenty-four hours, and that he would not be Fire Chief Kenyon, was circulated last night. This report, following close upon the heels of Saturday's rumors of Commissioner Enright's resignation, was attributed to a person close to the Hyman administration and in a position to forecast coming events in the municipality. No verification of it could be obtained, but it was put forward by a source that expressed complete confidence in it.

In the course of the day neither Commissioner Enright nor Fire Chief Kenyon had any further comment to make regarding Saturday's stories to the effect that the firefighter was to step into the police head's shoes; a report which both had ridiculed but which neither one flatly denied.

HOLD UP FUNERAL ON POISON CHARGE

Autopsy on Mrs. Bruhl Showed Death Due to Neuritis.

The funeral of Mrs. Catherine Bruhl of 9737 156th street, Ozone Park, Queens, who died last Wednesday in St. Mary's Hospital, Jamaica, was held up yesterday morning while Chief Medical Examiner Howard W. Neill of Queens performed an autopsy. Mrs. Carl Voss, a neighbor, had complained to the police that she believed Mrs. Bruhl had been poisoned.

The autopsy showed that Mrs. Bruhl's death had been caused by chronic neuritis, but Dr. Neill sent the contents of her stomach to a laboratory for analysis. The only grounds that Mrs. Voss had for believing the woman had been poisoned was that Mr. Bruhl had said she "was responsible for Mrs. Bruhl's death," and she felt that something ought to be done about it.

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